

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL

STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (SACRE)

MINUTES of a meeting of the Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education (SACRE) held in the Council Chamber, Sessions House, County Hall, Maidstone on Tuesday, 7 March 2017.

PRESENT: Mrs N Younosi (Vice-Chairman in the Chair), Ms N Brownfield, Rabbi C Cohen, Mrs V Corbyn, Mrs C Elapatha, Mrs J Grant, Mr T A Maddison, Mr M J Northey, Mr M Papadopoulos, Miss E Pope, Miss R Walters, Miss J Webb, Mrs J Wigg, Mrs B Naden, Ms F Hawkes, Mrs E May, Mrs R Joyce, Mr A Fowler and Miss C Bostock

IN ATTENDANCE: Ms P Smith-Orr (Consultant Advisor) and Mrs C Wade (Democratic Services Officer)

UNRESTRICTED ITEMS

116. Membership

(Item 1)

(1) Members noted the resignation of Jemma West (Clerk) and welcomed Carol Wade as the returning temporary Clerk for the one meeting.

117. Minutes of meeting 29 November 2016

(Item 4)

(1) The Minutes of 29 November 2016 were signed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

118. Budget Update

(Item 5)

(1) The Clerk tabled an amended Budget showing a surplus of £1,053.00, indicating 79% of the budget had been spent.

(2) Mrs Corbyn explained the underspend was due to the postponement of the 2016 Primary event which was now scheduled to take place in July 2017. Members were urged to submit expenses before the end of the financial year.

119. Annual Report 2015-16

(Item 6)

(1) Ms Smith-Orr advised she had presented the Annual Report to the Education and Young People's Services Cabinet Committee. It had also been sent to NASACRE and was on their website and the Dept.of Education.

(2) It was noted that not all schools were entering students for the GCSE exam and Ms Smith-Orr voiced concern that students may not therefore be taught RE. Mrs

Joyce said her Academy now taught a none-examination course, in order to relieve stress on students and have higher regard for the mental wellbeing of young people.

(3) Mrs Walters was concerned about the knock on at low A level take-up and University choices, impacting the supply of specialist teachers. In Mrs Joyce's experience this was not an issue.

(4) The Chairman congratulated SACRE members on the Annual Report and thanked members for their input.

120. Local & National Events

(Item 7)

(1) RE Commission

(a) Following the presentation of Mr Elliott Lockhart at the previous meeting, Ms Smith-Orr reported that the Commission on RE had held its first evidence gathering meeting on 23 February 2017 which would continue for two years.

(b) The write up was published on Kent Teachers facebook and available on the REC website. The public were welcome to attend and listen, applying either as an individual or on behalf of an organisation.

(2) Cardiff University.

(a) Ms Smith-Orr reported that the conference on Religious Diversity in Primary Schools would be held end March 2017.

(3) NASACRE AGM-16 May 2017-York

(a) Rabbi Cohen volunteered to attend, and would submit his mileage claim in advance. The Clerk would ask Mr Manion if he was willing to attend and take Mrs Younosi, therefore enrolling three delegate from Kent.

(4) Primary Event

(a) 5 July 2017, Highworth Grammar School, Ashford, 10-14:30.

(b) The Clerk reported 22 Schools had enlisted with four Year 5 pupils each. Mrs Corbyn stated their was capacity for 30 schools and hoped the event would run at the maximum. It was reiterated that all SACRE members were welcome to attend.

(5) Secondary Event.

(a) Members discussed the failure of schools to register for proposed previous events and decided to postpone any further arrangements until it could be established why the take up was so poor ? Would a change of venue solve the problem? Would any schools be willing to host a road show type of event?

(b) Members decided their main thrust must be towards the Statutory Agreed Syllabus, and the Secondary event be deferred until that was written and could

equip the Council with a focus for the Roadshow and how best to include young people.

- (c) A date of Spring 2018 would be the aim, running a small pilot Roadshow and if met with a positive response, any suggested changes incorporated to meet locally identified needs.

121. RE Teachers Hub

(Item 8)

(1) Miss Pope reported a meeting had taken place in Canterbury the previous week, focussing on the RE Quality Mark and been open to all schools who had gained the REQM, whatever category, to make a presentation. Miss Pope had been unable to attend.

122. Dates

(Item 9)

(1) Members noted the following dates.

(a) SACRE:

Wed 17 June 2017-Society of Friend meeting House, Canterbury

Tues.28 Nov.2017-County Hall, Maidstone

(b) Briefings at Oakwood House, Maidstone:

Mon.15 May 2017

Mon.16 Oct. 2017

(c) Primary Youth SACRE Event

Wed.5 July 2017,Highworth grammar School, Ashford 10-14:30

123. Any other items which the Chairman decides are urgent

(Item 10)

(1) There were no urgent items.